

Part I – Agency Profile

Agency Overview

WWAMI is Idaho's state supported medical school and is under the leadership and institutional mission of the University of Idaho (UI), in partnership with the University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM) since 1972. Students started medical school with a multi-week clinical immersion experience, intensively learning the clinical skills and professional habits to serve them throughout their careers. Students spend a full day each week learning and practicing clinical skills for their first 18 months in a community primary care clinic and in workshops. This is in addition to their hospital-based "Colleges" training with a faculty mentor and small group of peers. This curriculum allows our students to be on the University of Idaho campus for up to 4 terms, with the option to spend most of all four years of medical education in the State of Idaho. WWAMI enrolls 40 students per class with the first 18 months on the Moscow Campus, followed by clinical rotations in Idaho and the five state WWAMI region.

The Director for the Foundation Phase of WWAMI reports to the Provost and Executive Vice President at the University of Idaho, and functions as an Assistant Dean of the UWSOM. Two Assistant Deans for the Patient Care Phase (3rd year) and the Explore and Focus Phase (4th year) are located in Boise and report to the Vice Dean for Academic, Rural and Regional Affairs at UWSOM. WWAMI at UI employs 44 employees: 15 fulltime and 7 parttime faculty (includes 3 fulltime post-doctoral faculty), 5 faculty shared with other academic programs, 7 fulltime administrative staff and 10 fulltime employees involved in the rural medical research programs (ECHO and AHEC). Idaho students admitted to WWAMI are interviewed and selected by the Idaho Admissions Committee, a group of Idaho physicians appointed by the Idaho State Board of Education and UWSOM. They work in cooperation with the University of Washington School of Medicine Admissions Committee to admit students. All applicant interviews have been conducted through a web conferencing platform since the Covid-19 pandemic of 2020.

Idaho WWAMI is committed to helping prepare physicians for medical practice in Idaho, regardless of eventual specialty selection, as well as increasing the number of physicians who choose to practice in rural or underserved areas. In FY23, WWAMI-affiliated faculty at UI has successfully brought in \$2.1M of research funding into Idaho from agencies such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Institute of Health (NIH) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

In 2018, the University of Idaho WWAMI launched its ECHO Idaho program (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) and is growing this evidence-based learning model that develops knowledge and capacity among healthcare providers. Over the past six years, the ECHO Idaho program has been successful in bringing in over \$4.5M in grant funding to be used to expand the program throughout Idaho.

Established in 2017 through a subcontract with the University of Washington, the North Idaho Health Education Center (NI AHEC) continues to develop and implement education and training activities within the healthcare pipeline and strengthen partnerships in rural communities throughout the State of Idaho. For the 2022-2023 fiscal year, N ID AHEC received a sub-award of \$108,187 from the Idaho AHEC Program Office, with a 1:1 match from non-federally funded governmental resources.

Cutting-edge research prepares the next generation of doctors to be well-informed and at the forefront of clinical medical practice. The WWAMI faculty at the University of Idaho and our clinical/research faculty in Boise, Pocatello, Jerome, Caldwell, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, McCall, Sandpoint, Hailey, and other rural training communities are committed to being dynamic teachers and informed biomedical scholars.

In addition, Idaho WWAMI goals include the continued development of humanitarian and service interests of our medical students, and recruitment from groups within Idaho that are traditionally underrepresented in medical school populations. WWAMI has established outreach programs to high schools and community colleges to encourage and prepare talented Idaho students from rural, first generation-college student, underprivileged, or minority backgrounds who have an interest in medicine and health careers.

Core Functions/Idaho Code

The core function of Idaho WWAMI at the University of Idaho is to provide qualified Idaho residents with access to and education in medical training as part of the Idaho State Board of Education’s contract with the University of Washington School of Medicine. Idaho Code **§33-3720** authorizes the State Board of Education to enter into contractual agreements to provide access for Idaho residents to qualified professional studies programs, and specifically, the WWAMI Medical Education Program (33-3717B(7)).

Revenue and Expenditure

Revenue	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023
General Fund	\$6,830,600	\$6,575,600	\$6,879,400	\$6,973,400
Unrestricted Current	<u>2,055,775</u>	<u>2,417,850</u>	<u>2,427,059</u>	<u>3,670,600</u>
Total	\$8,886,375	\$8,993,450	\$9,306,459	\$10,644,000
Expenditures	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	
Personnel Costs	\$2,249,561	\$2,484,288	\$2,906,831	\$3,607,072
Operating Expenditures	770,193	2,121,764	1,018,643	951,808
Capital Outlay	66,746	92,220	163,528	44,504
Trustee/Benefit Payments	<u>4,436,674</u>	<u>4,566,008</u>	<u>4,621,000</u>	<u>4,776,237</u>
Total	\$7,523,174	\$9,264,280	\$8,710,001	\$9,379,621

Profile of Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided

Cases Managed and/or Key Services Provided	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY2023
Number of Idaho Students Applying to UW Medical School (WWAMI)	184	182	206	182
Number of Idaho Students Enrolled Each Year	40	40	40	40
Number/Percentage of Idaho WWAMI Graduates who have practiced in Idaho (cumulative)	51%	50%	51%	51%

FY 2023 Performance Highlights

For FY 2023, WWAMI was able to meet or exceed all our performance measures as evidence from our medical student performance and medical curriculum. WWAMI has a strong applicant pool for the 40 positions in each class, and the Idaho WWAMI retention rate exceeds the national average. Students are able to complete the majority of all four years of medical school within Idaho, and this increases students’ exposure to medical practice and residency programs within our state.

In March of 2022, the Senate Education Committee easily passed a bill requiring graduates of Idaho’s medical school to practice in the state for at least four years or pay back any tuition subsidized by public dollars, along with a resolution to add 10 more seats to the school’s enrollment capacity. [House Bill 718](#) outlines contract requirements for students who are accepted into the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho Regional Medical Education Program, better known as WWAMI, at the University of Idaho or the University of Utah. Beginning the summer of 2023, students entering the program would commit to entering active, full-time professional practice in Idaho within one year of obtaining a license to practice medicine or finishing a residency or fellowship. The reimbursement obligation would not be subject to interest and could be suspended or waived based on hardship or other specific circumstances related to military service. The obligation would apply to students who enroll in the WWAMI program at the University of Idaho or University of Utah in 2023 and beyond. Please see following link for House Bill 718: <https://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2022/legislation/H0718.pdf>

Idaho Project ECHO

Committed to providing continuing medical education for practicing healthcare professionals in the state, the University of Idaho WWAMI program launched its Project ECHO Idaho program in early 2018. Project ECHO is an evidence-based learning model that develops knowledge and capacity among healthcare providers.

The program expands access to specialty and high-quality primary care in rural Idaho using distance learning technology by developing workforce capacity to treat common, complex conditions. Interdisciplinary specialist teams use video conferencing to connect with community providers in rural and underserved areas of the state for brief didactic lectures and participant- provided case studies. This format allows providers to learn best practices and receive consultation and mentorship needed to care for complicated patients. In this way, patients receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time.

The demonstrated benefits of Project ECHO include improved access to quality care, with high patient satisfaction; increased knowledge for providers in rural and professional shortage areas; enhanced professional satisfaction and reduced isolation; higher retention of providers in rural areas; and decreased costs realized by less hospitalizations and ER visits, better quality of care close to home, and treatment of chronic diseases earlier before complications arise. ECHO Idaho implements ECHO trainings with full fidelity to the ECHO model and as such, similar outcomes are being realized in Idaho. ECHO Idaho is an official replication partner and the only ECHO project in the state. Trainings are offered free of charge and participants receive free continuing medical education credits.

During the last year Project ECHO provided education through 14 distinct programs and content areas, providing 537 professional development sessions, to 1,454 unique healthcare professionals; including 1,039 who provide direct care to patients. After experiencing tremendous interest in our first three years, Project ECHO set a goal to increase participant engagements in our fourth year by 20%. During the last year, our participant engagement increased 135% to a total of 5,795, which resulted in more than 9,500 continuing medical education credits being offered. ECHO Idaho trainings continue to be in high demand. In the coming year we already have two new series planned, one on Geriatric Care and another on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia, in addition to several continuing topics.

Project ECHO's success continues to be driven by the high caliber interdisciplinary professionals from across Idaho who partner with our organization to help share their knowledge and improve patient care statewide.

Part II – Performance Measures

Performance Measure		FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY2023	FY2024
GOAL 1: INNOVATE - Scholarly and creative work with impact						
1. Percentage of Idaho WWAMI students participating in medical research (laboratory and/or community health). <i>*Reduction as a result of COVID-19 and graduation research requirement waived.</i>	actual	87%*	75%*	90%	90%	-----
	target	100% ³	100% ³	100% ³	100% ³	100% ³
2. The number of WWAMI rural summer training placements in Idaho each year.	actual	20	20	17	20	----
	target	20 ⁴	20 ⁴	20 ⁴	20 ⁴	20 ⁴
3. WWAMI faculty funding from competitive federally funded grants.	actual	\$2.5M	\$2.2M	\$1.57M	\$2.2M	----
	target	\$1.4M ²	\$1.4M ²	\$1.4M ²	\$1.4M ²	\$1.4M ²
GOAL 2: ENGAGE - Outreach that inspires innovation and culture						
4. Cumulative Idaho WWAMI return rate for graduates who practice medicine in Idaho. (376 returning physicians/747 total residency graduates). ⁷	actual	51%	50%	51%	51%	----
	target	55% ¹	55% ¹	55% ¹	55% ¹	55% ¹
5. Percent of Idaho WWAMI graduates choosing primary care, psychiatry, general surgery, and OB/GYN specialties for residency training each year.	actual	68%	58%	73%	70%	----
	target	50% ⁵	50% ⁵	50% ⁵	50% ⁵	50% ⁵
GOAL 3: TRANSFORM - Increase our educational impact						
6. Pass rate on the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE), Steps 1 & 2, taken during medical training.	actual	98%	98%	98%	98%	----
	target	94% ⁶	97% ⁶	97% ⁶	94.5% ⁶	----

Performance Measure Explanatory Notes

Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) Applicants and Matriculate Data:

<https://www.aamc.org/data/facts/applicantmatriculant/>

1. Target rate is 55% –The benchmark is 39.7% which is the national average of students that return to their native state to practice medicine. In Idaho, the return rate was 51%. (376 returning physicians/747 residency graduates), (Reference: 2021 AAMC State Physician Workforce Data Report) https://store.aamc.org/downloadable/download/sample/sample_id/506/
2. This target rate is per WWAMI mission
3. This target rate is per WWAMI mission.
4. The target is 50% interest in rural training experiences in the Rural Underserved Opportunities Program (RUOP). (50% of 40 students is 20 students)
5. Based on national standards for workforce specialties.
6. U.S. Pass Rate (reference: USMLE Performance Data, <https://www.usmle.org/performance-data/> (National Pass rate was 94.5% based on Step 1 and Step 2 results combined).
7. This document has been updated to reflect accurate data.

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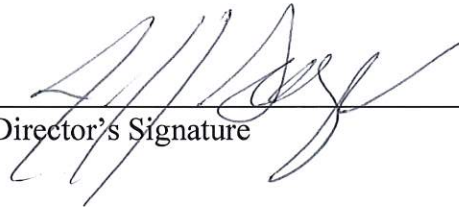
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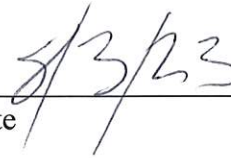
Director Attestation for Performance Report

In accordance with *Idaho Code* 67-1904, I certify the data provided in the Performance Report has been internally assessed for accuracy, and, to the best of my knowledge, is deemed to be accurate.

WWAMI Medical Education Program

Department: _____

Director's Signature _____


Date _____


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